



*James M. Prendergast*  
*Executive Director*

Mr. Timothy J. Muris  
Chairman  
Federal Trade Commission  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20580

Dear Chairman Muris:

I am writing to congratulate you on a job well done with the recent FTC workshop on spam and to thank you for your recent enforcement actions against internet scammers and deceptive spammers.

Americans for Technology Leadership is a broad-based coalition of technology professionals, consumers, and organizations dedicated to limiting government regulation of technology and to fostering competitive market solutions to public policy issues that affect the technology industry.

We believe that the solution to spam lies in a united front of consumers, technology and lawmakers each playing a specific role. Consumers are the front line in the fight against spam and there is a lot that they can do. As detailed in the Bureau of Consumer Protection's publications, a few simple steps by consumers can stem the flow of spam to their email accounts.

We also applaud the recent steps taken by the technology industry to combat spam. By making use of existing laws to go after spammers, working together to create industry wide solutions and by investing heavily in new technologies that allow ISP's and consumers to fight spam, the technology industry is showing much needed leadership in this fight.

Finally, we welcome the support of Congress and Legislatures across the country in the fight against spam. Legislation, properly written, may be necessary as part of the overall solution to spam. But before Washington tries a "we know best" approach, they should look at what works in the real world. Maybe legislators can avoid some of the ineffective approaches in place right now, and fight back with targeted solutions that solve the spam problem without unintended consequences.

I have enclosed a copy of a letter we recently sent to Congress urging them to consider market place developments when crafting legislation to deal with spam. I ask that this be included as part of the Spam Forum Record.

To effectively fight this problem, we need consumers, lawmakers and the industry working together. The FTC's Spam Forum was a venue where all of these stakeholders could come together to address this problem and you should be commended for bringing together the experts in this field to discuss potential solutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JRS", written on a light gray rectangular background.